

REMARKS

In the present amendment, claims 4 and 7 have been amended. Claims 4-8 remain pending. No new matter has been added by the amendments.

In the Office action mailed on December 8, 2003, the Examiner objected to the title of the invention. Applicant respectfully submits the amended title "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREPROCESSING COMPLEX INSTRUCTION WORDS TO TRIGGER FUNCTIONAL UNITS IN PROCESSOR" for consideration.

In the Office action, claims 4-8 have been rejected as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,031,992 to Cmelik (hereinafter referred to as Cmelik). Cmelik is directed to a program for translating commands into a target program during execution. Cmelik further describes a procedure for executing the translating program with the support of conditional branches. See col. 19, ln. 31 – col. 20, ln. 4.

In contrast, Applicants' invention describes a translation of primary instruction words into a sequence of program words during a configuration phase by, for example, using a compiler. As set forth in claims 4 and 7 as amended, the translation is fully performed during the configuration phase. Thus, in the present invention, instruction words are preprocessed for later execution so the data can be handled more easily. As a result, in the invention, the complex word detection and storage is an unconditional branch, not a conditional branch as in Cmelik. See col. 19, lns. 42-48. Therefore, unlike Cmelik, which performs translation during execution, no "translation buffer" is needed in connection with the present invention. In addition, as set

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forth in claim 4, during an execution phase, "complex words are read from said complex word table and stored in parallel in said secondary instruction word memory." Claim 7 recites a similar limitation in that "said memory is arranged to transfer said complex word parts to said buffer memory in parallel to execute a data-stationary command." It is respectfully submitted that Cmelik does not disclose at least these features of independent claims 4 and 7.

Applicants respectfully submit that at least for these reasons, independent claims 4 and 7 and their respective dependent claims 5-6 and 8 are not anticipated by Cmelik.

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance with pending claims 4-8, which is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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